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ABSTRACT

The essay presented in this book is aimed at those individuals contemplating a career in education. The volume examines the opportunities, problems, and realities of the teaching profession to guide prospective teachers through the career decision-making process. It advises those who are thinking of teaching to ask questions, ponder their decision, and pursue the information needed to make a reasoned choice. Teaching is portrayed as a demanding, complex profession, and many who choose to teach make the choice without thinking about how well their own motives and expectations fit into the realities of life in a classroom. It is posited that the more potential teachers know about the teaching profession--both what it is now and what it should and can be--the better equipped they will be to take an active role in changing the system. It is claimed that matching one's styles, needs, and goals to the obligations, responsibilities, and problems inherent in the job will give prospective teachers a better sense of what they are getting into, and will allow them to take responsibility for professional choices and personal and intellectual growth. (LL)

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